

# Your unique style

**LANGUAGE**

 present forms; *like, as if, and as though* ■ body language and communication

## 1A Communication and you

**1 A** Complete the quiz. Choose a, b, or c for each question.

### What's your communication style?

**1** If you try to hide something from someone, ...

- a your voice changes.
- b you don't make eye contact.
- c your body language changes.



**2** When you're angry, you tend to ...

- a raise your voice.
- b imagine a response in your head.
- c physically show you're angry, e.g., slam the door.



**3** If you want to get someone's attention, you ...

- a say his/her name.
- b look at the person.
- c tap him/her on the shoulder.



**B** Discuss your answers in pairs. Did you choose mostly a, b, or c answers?

**Go to Vocabulary practice:** body language and communication, page 136

**2** Check your answers to the quiz in exercise 1A. What type of communicator are you?

Personal Best

**a answers: audio communicators**

Audio communicators mainly interact with the world using their ears, and enjoy listening to people. They often notice small changes in people's voices, so they can tell immediately if someone sounds sad or worried. They often say things like, "I hear what you're saying," "How does that sound?," or "Sounds good!"

**b answers: visual communicators**

Visual communicators primarily interact with the world using their eyes. They understand ideas through images, and when they try to remember information, they feel as if a little movie is running in their heads. They often nod and say things like, "I see what you mean," "As I see it ...," or "It looks (like rain)." They can lose focus if other speakers talk too much.

**c answers: kinesthetic communicators**

Kinesthetic communicators interact with the world mostly using their body and intuition. They're attracted to people and situations that feel familiar. They like to learn by using their hands and moving as though they're acting in a play. They often need more words to communicate their message than visual and audio communicators. They say things like, "I know how you feel."

**3 A** Choose the correct options and check your answers in exercise 2. Which sentence refers to right now?

- 1 Audio communicators *interact / are interacting* with the world using their ears.
- 2 Visual communicators *understand / are understanding* ideas through images.
- 3 When they try to remember information, they feel as if a little movie *runs / is running* in their heads.
- 4 Kinesthetic communicators *need / are needing* more words to communicate their message.

**B** Underline *sound, look, and feel* in exercise 2. Complete the rules with *noun, adjective, or clause*. Then read the Grammar box.

1 Use *sound/look/feel* + \_\_\_\_\_.

3 Use *sound/look/feel as if/though* + \_\_\_\_\_.

2 Use *sound/look/feel like* + \_\_\_\_\_.



**Grammar** present forms; *like, as if, and as though*

**Simple present with action or state verbs:**

*The sun (always) sets in the west.*  
*I think I know the answer.*  
*It definitely sounds/looks/feels weird.*

**Present continuous with action verbs:**

*Look outside. The sun's setting (right now).*  
*I'm thinking of going to London*  
*She's always criticizing me!*

**Look!** We can also use *like* before a clause, but only in informal speech:

*It looks like Mary's not coming to the party.* (= informal conversation)

*As though* is a little more formal than *as if*:

*It sounds as if/as though John's health is improving.* (= neutral/formal speech and writing)

**Sense verbs with adjectives, nouns, and clauses:**

*It looks strange.* (adjective)  
*It sounds like a nightmare!* (noun)  
*It feels as if I've been here before.* (clause)  
*It sounds as though you need help.* (clause)



**Go to Grammar practice:** present forms; *like, as if, and as though*, page 112

- 4 A** 1.3 **Pronunciation:** *as* Listen to the sentences. Notice how *as* is pronounced.
- 1 It sounds as if you're working really hard.
  - 2 This coat looks as if it's never been cleaned!
  - 3 It feels as though we've lived here for ages.
  - 4 It looks as though he'll be late.
- B** 1.3 Listen again and repeat. Then practice saying the sentences in pairs.
- 5 A** Fill in the blanks with the correct form of *sound, look, or feel*, adding *like, as if, or as though* where necessary. Then choose the correct verb forms.

**Six things a good listener might say**

**Good listeners are authentic in their desire to hear what the other person has to say. Before rushing to give advice, they often say things like:**

- 1 You I \_\_\_\_\_ worried. What's on your mind?  
*Do you need / Are you needing* some help?
- 2 It s \_\_\_\_\_ you've had an exhausting day.  
*You work / You're working* too hard these days!
- 3 Wow! Your class s \_\_\_\_\_ a nightmare. *Do you want / Are you wanting* to talk about it?
- 4 You I \_\_\_\_\_ you could use a friend. *Does something bother / Is something bothering* you?
- 5 Hmm ... You I \_\_\_\_\_ you're not sure what to do. *Do you think / Are you thinking* of dropping out of college?
- 6 Your boss s \_\_\_\_\_ awful! I mean, *he never listens / is never listening* to you.

**B** Choose two sentences in exercise 5A to start conversations. Your partner will give his/her own response.

**Go to Communication practice:** Both students, page 170

**6 A** Complete the sentences below about prompts 1–4 on the right.

- 1 I just received an e-mail telling me \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 2 Tomorrow's weather \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 3 Did you hear the news about \_\_\_\_\_ ?
- 4 You won't believe it, but Lucy \_\_\_\_\_ .

**B** Discuss the sentences in exercise 6A in pairs. Respond using sense verbs and ask follow-up questions.

- A** *I just received an e-mail telling me I won some money.*  
**B** *It sounds like a trick to me. Are you planning to reply?*

1 

E-mail to: Lucky winners
Subject: Cash prize!

2 

<b>Weather forecast:</b> High winds, very low temperatures
---------------------------------------------------------------

3 

<b>BREAKING NEWS:</b> <b>GOVERNOR RESIGNS</b>
--------------------------------------------------

4 

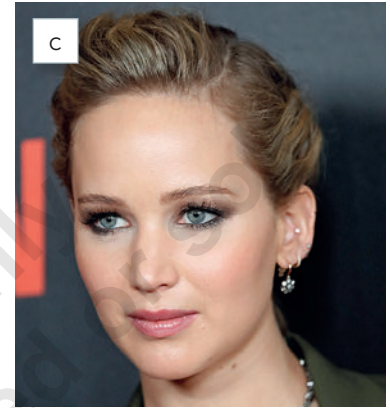
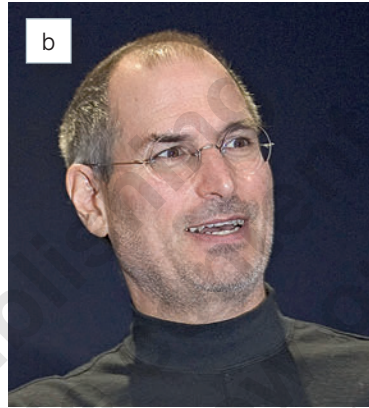
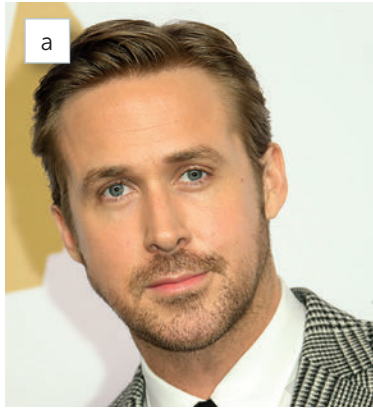
Message from Lucy: I passed! 😊
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## 1B The cool factor

- 1 **A** Have you ever thought about what makes someone "cool"? Discuss the question in pairs.
- B** In pairs, discuss which words in the box you would use to describe the people in the pictures. In your opinion, are any of these people cool?

open-minded world-famous good-looking forward-thinking



Go to **Vocabulary practice**: compound adjectives, page 137

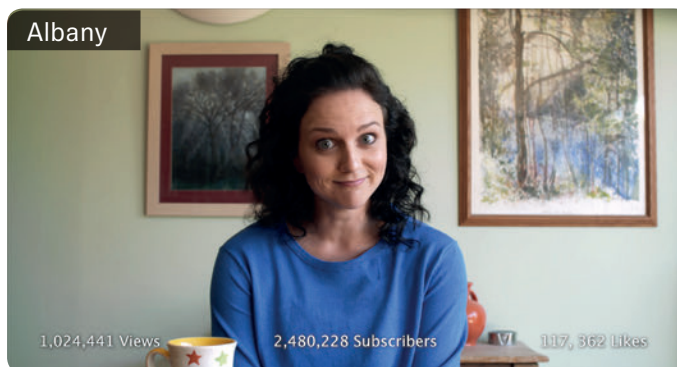


### Skill identifying attitude

You can often identify a speaker's attitude by listening to how certain or fixed his/her opinions are. Some clues include:

- words or expressions showing more or less certainty:  
*Definitely not! I have no doubt that ... , I tend to think ... , In a way, I think ...*
- modal verbs or adverbs expressing probability:  
*It might be ... , This is probably the most important ...*
- tone of voice and style:  
A rising, louder tone may show the speaker feels strongly. A moderate tone and "filler" words like *uh, I mean* or *you know* may show uncertainty.

- 2 1.5 Read the Skill box. Then watch or listen to the first part of a webshow called *Talking Zone*. What is Albany's attitude toward being cool? Choose the correct answer.
- a** She tries very hard to be cool all the time.
- b** She sometimes tries to be cool.
- c** She never thinks about being cool and doesn't try.





**3 A** 1.5 Watch or listen again. Check (✓) the things the speakers say about being cool.

- 1 Cool people are just people who act very naturally.
- 2 It's easy to act cool.
- 3 It's important to care about being cool.
- 4 You should tell people when you think they're cool.
- 5 You can't plan to be cool since the definition keeps changing.



**B** What do you remember from the video so far? Use the Skill box to help you. Complete the blanks.

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_, I think cool is just being yourself.
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_, most people care about that kind of thing.
- 3 I have \_\_\_\_\_ that you're the ones who really deserve the award.
- 4 I \_\_\_\_\_ think it's because I'm 'warm'.

**4** Discuss the questions in pairs.

- 1 Which statements in exercise 3A do you agree with?
- 2 Has your own definition of "cool" changed since high school? In what way?

**5** Look at the pictures. Tell your partner which one best matches your personal definition of "cool."



**6** 1.6 Watch or listen to the second part of the show. What is Albany's most important advice?

**7** 1.6 Watch or listen again. Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- 1 Albany isn't surprised that she has two million viewers. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 She acts as if she knows her viewers and talks directly to them. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 Albany only promotes products she identifies with. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 Albany thinks you can succeed quickly. \_\_\_\_\_

**Listening builder consonant-consonant reduction**

In fast speech, similar sounds can merge between words so that you only hear one sound.

This can sometimes make the words harder to understand.

Same sound: *Do you expect ~~t~~ to be home early?*

Different sounds: *Not in my wildest ~~t~~ dreams!*

**8 A** 1.7 Read the Listening builder. Then listen to the sentences from the video. Cross out the sounds you don't hear in the underlined words.

- 1 She's been nominated for a "Cool Tube" award.
- 2 Did you expect to be so successful?
- 3 I just create videos about my everyday life.
- 4 I hoped that my friends and coworkers would watch them.
- 5 It might be that my videos are natural and unrehearsed.
- 6 Sounds like a dream job and leads me to my next question.

**B** 1.7 Listen again and repeat each sentence.

**9** In pairs, discuss these questions.

- 1 Do you follow any YouTubers? What do they talk about?
- 2 Would you ever start your own channel? What would it be about?



## 1C Great expectations

1 A Match the two parts to make complete sentences.

- |                                        |                                    |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 If you don't succeed at first,       | a lower your expectations.         |
| 2 You never get a second chance        | b failing at something.            |
| 3 If you want to avoid disappointment, | c try again until you do.          |
| 4 It is impossible to live without     | d to make a good first impression. |

B In pairs, discuss whether or not you agree with the statements, and give a reason.

Go to **Vocabulary practice**: expectations, page 137

2 A Read the comments on a forum about people's disappointing experiences. Who feels more negative about his/her experience?



HOME FORUM NEWS SIGN IN

# NOT WHAT I EXPECTED!



REPLY SHARE

Yesterday my girlfriend and I had lunch at the new Raspberry Garden restaurant, *the* place to be. We'd read the reviews and according to 10 out of 10 critics it offered "delicious food," "great service," and had "stylish décor." It sounded too good to be true, but we'd been looking forward to going there for months, so we gave it a try. Well, the place was really cool, but the food was nothing special. The servers were polite and got our orders right, but they rarely smiled or made eye contact. At times, I actually felt as if they were looking down on us. Maybe they didn't think we were cool enough for the place. We went back there a second time, but nothing had changed. Do I recommend the place? No, not really. It failed to impress me, to be honest.

**Paul, Boston, Massachusetts** Like Follow

When Alex and I finally went out on a date, we'd been texting for weeks. We'd only *met* on Instagram, and, for a while, it seemed as if we were meant for each other: same interests, tastes, and sense of humor. I really liked his online style, but the real Alex turned out to be completely different. When he saw me, his very first question was, "Hi, can we take a selfie?" and then it got worse and worse. He kept talking about expensive designer clothes and the latest celebrity gossip, and he never stayed with any topic for more than ten seconds. He kept posting online while I was talking to him – it was as if I wasn't there! Can you believe the guy? It was a real disappointment since I'd expected a lot more.

**Brenda, Dallas, Texas** Like Follow

B Read the text again. Order the events for each story.

Story 1:

- a  Paul and his girlfriend went to the restaurant.  
 b  They ate at the restaurant for a second time.  
 c  They read the restaurant reviews.

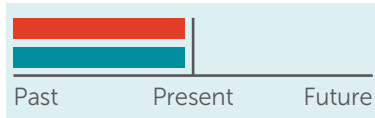
Story 2:

- a  They met face to face.  
 b  Brenda and Alex spent weeks texting each other.  
 c  Brenda was surprised by Alex's behavior.

3 Choose the correct options to complete the sentences. Check your answers in the text in exercise 2A.

- 1 We *looked* / *'d been looking* forward to going there for months, so we gave it a try.
- 2 At times, I actually felt as if they *were looking* / *had looked* down on us.
- 3 We went back there a second time, but nothing *had changed* / *had been changing*.
- 4 When Alex and I finally went out on a date, we *texted* / *'d been texting* for weeks.
- 5 He kept posting online while I *was talking* / *had talked* to him.

- 4 In pairs, match sentences 1–5 in exercise 3 with timelines a–c below. What are the tenses in a–c called? Then read the Grammar box.



- a A was in progress at the same time as B.  
 b A happened before B.  
 c A was in progress before B.

**Grammar** narrative tenses

**Simple past:**

I **parked** the car and **walked** into the restaurant.  
 I **wrote** to her every day for several months.  
 We **didn't enjoy** our vacation much.

**Past continuous:**

The phone rang while I **was taking** a shower.  
 She spent ages talking to her friend while we **were waiting** for our food.

**Look!** The past continuous and past perfect continuous usually aren't used with state verbs:  
 I'd **had** my car for five years when I sold it. NOT ~~had been having~~

**Past perfect:**

The place we went to looked familiar. It felt as if I'd **been** there before.  
 When I arrived, they **had** already **started**.

**Past perfect continuous:**

I was tired because I'd **been working** hard.  
 It **had been snowing** for days.



**Go to Grammar practice:** narrative tenses, page 113

- 5 **1.11 Pronunciation:** stress in narrative tenses Listen to the sentences. Circle the stressed word in each underlined phrase.

- 1 I was feeling a bit nervous before the interview.
- 2 I had never done anything like skiing before.
- 3 I'd been saving money for a trip for months.
- 4 I fell when I was walking home from work.
- 5 It felt as if we'd known each other for a long time.

- 6 Read the second part of Brenda's story and complete the sentences with the correct tense of the verbs in parentheses. Have you ever changed your mind about someone you met online?

At the end of our disastrous date, I <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (not think) Alex and I would ever see each other again. I mean, clearly we didn't really know each other at all, although we <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (spend) months texting each other. But he called me and said he <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (think) a lot about me since that day and wanted to see me again, so I decided to give him a second chance. As it turns out, we <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (have) much better chemistry when we met again. We <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (talk) about lots of different things, and, surprisingly, he was a lot more interesting than he <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (seem) on our first date. Lesson learned: everyone deserves a second chance.



**Go to Communication practice:** Student A page 158, Student B page 164

- 7 Tell your partner about a person, place, or event that surprised you. Use the prompts to help you, and different narrative tenses.

What was the situation?

Had you been looking forward to it?

What happened?

Had you ever had a similar experience before?

Did the person/place/event turn out to be better/worse than you thought?

What did you learn from the experience?

## 1D My bad purchase!

- 1 In pairs, talk about a bad purchase you made, for example, an item of clothing, a piece of furniture, or a gadget. Think about something:
  - 1 you bought, but couldn't really afford.
  - 2 you thought was cool, but didn't really need.
  - 3 you paid a lot of money for and quickly got tired of.
- 2 Read the blog post about Donald and his dog, Buster. In what ways was Buster a good purchase and a bad purchase? What do you think happened next?

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## What was I thinking?

Posted 3.45pm

1 I still remember my 30th birthday. It seems like only yesterday. I'd been invited to my sister's place for lunch, and I was walking by a pet shop, when I saw the cutest little dog watching me from the window. **In the beginning**, I wasn't sure as I was very busy at work. Then I looked at him and started to wonder if a pet might fit my lifestyle. After all, I often take a walk in the park after work. As soon as he saw me, he gave me a look that seemed to say, "Please take me home!" We should never have made eye contact.

2 After lunch, I walked back to the pet shop, and, **before long**, that little dog, which felt like a tiny black and white teddy bear, was in my arms. "He's affectionate and full of energy," the salesclerk assured me. I'd been thinking of giving myself a birthday gift for weeks, so one hour later, I was on my way home with a smile on my face, a six-month-old puppy, and a hole in my bank account. I had no idea what the next few months would be like.

3 For a while, it felt as if Buster – I named him after a cartoon character that I love – made my life complete. It was nice to come home to a friendly face after a long, stressful day and have some company. I didn't mind the torn sofa or the missing remote controls.

<sup>1</sup>My apartment looked like a disaster area, but I kept telling myself, <sup>2</sup>"Don't worry! That's what puppies do." I hoped Buster would start to behave, and <sup>3</sup>I would soon find out if my hope was realistic.




4 Unfortunately, Buster seemed to get worse with every passing day. He ran around the apartment, jumping on and off the furniture, like a mad frog, and barking for no reason. I'd never seen anything like it! **As time went on**, Buster developed other strange habits, such as moving food from his bowl to the floor before eating it, or pulling off my socks and hiding them – every single day. I failed at every attempt to train him. **Eventually**, I told myself, "Enough is enough!" I knew what I had to do.

5 In despair, I Skyped my brother, Barry. He lives on a small farm with his wife, kids, and two dogs, so I asked him how he'd feel about having a third one. He finally agreed, and **in a matter of hours**, Buster was gone. I still miss him, but it looks as if he's adapted well to his new home. As for me, I swear I'll never buy another pet again. Well, maybe a goldfish.

Donald F. Brattleboro, Vermont

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- 3 Read the story again. In which paragraph (1–5) does Donald:
- |                                     |     |                                     |     |
|-------------------------------------|-----|-------------------------------------|-----|
| a talk about the “honeymoon” phase? | ___ | d realize that he’d made a mistake? | ___ |
| b give the background to the story? | ___ | e talk about buying the dog?        | ___ |
| c solve the problem?                | ___ |                                     |     |
- 4 Read the blog post again. Find examples of simple past, past continuous, past perfect, and past perfect continuous verbs.

 **Skill** making a narrative interesting

When writing a narrative, make your story more interesting by including:

- predictions or comments about the future: *I had no idea what the next few months would be like.*
- interesting comparisons: *... that little dog, which felt like a tiny black and white teddy bear ...*
- examples of direct speech: *“He’s affectionate and full of energy,” the salesclerk assured me.*
- a variety of narrative tenses, e.g., simple past, past continuous, past perfect, past perfect continuous.

- 5 **A** Read the Skill box. Match strategies 1–3 below with their purpose a–c. Which strategy is each underlined sentence in paragraph 3?
- |                        |                                                  |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| 1 provide a comparison | a to give someone a “voice”                      |
| 2 make a prediction    | b to help the reader visualize your descriptions |
| 3 use direct speech    | c to create suspense for the next paragraph      |
- B** Find one more example of a comparison and one of direct speech in paragraph 4.

 **Text builder** time linkers

We use time linkers like *at first*, *in no time*, and *after a while* to say how much time has passed between different past actions:

- |                                                                                    |                                                                                                      |                                                                                   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1 at the start</b><br><i>At first</i> , Donald wasn’t sure he should buy a dog. | <b>2 after a short time</b><br><i>He held Buster in his arms and, in no time</i> , changed his mind. | <b>3 some time later</b><br><i>After a while</i> , Donald regretted his decision. |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

- 6 Read the Text builder. Which meaning (1, 2, or 3) do the **bold** linkers in the blog post have?
- 7 Read Donald’s brother’s message to a friend a few weeks later. Choose the correct time linkers.

Last month, my brother Donald asked me if I could adopt his dog. I said yes, and <sup>1</sup>*before long / in the beginning*, he brought the dog over. <sup>2</sup>*At first / After a while*, we were happy to welcome him, but <sup>3</sup>*in the beginning / in no time*, Buster showed his true colors. He spent most of the day bullying the other dogs and destroying our living room, which Donald hadn’t warned us about! <sup>4</sup>*As time went on / At the start*, though, the dogs became best friends. Are we going to keep him? Yes! We’ve grown fond of him, I guess.

- 8 **A PREPARE** Choose an experience below that didn’t turn out as you had expected. Make notes about the main events.
- something you bought   a blind date   a new restaurant   a party   a vacation
- B PRACTICE** Write a blog post, using your notes to help you. Include different narrative tenses and time linkers. Use comparisons, predictions, and direct speech to make your story more interesting.
- C PERSONAL BEST** Exchange your blog post with your partner. Do your stories have anything in common?